

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e Patent Application of

Yuu Tanaka et al.

Application No.: 10/809,545

Filed: March 26, 2004

For: PARKING ASSIST APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 3661

Examiner: YONEL BEAULIEU

Confirmation No.: 6132

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability recently issued in connection with the aboveidentified application is accompanied by an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for
Allowance. The comments in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance point out that
the prior art does not disclose or teach

in a parking assist method and apparatus, calculation of a change of vehicle direction based on both the outputs of a speed sensor and a steering angle sensor and determining whether to stop parking assist control based upon a comparison of the change of the vehicle direction with a change of a vehicle direction calculated on the basis of yaw rate of a yaw rate sensor - the comparison revealing that the difference between the two is greater than a predetermined value.

For purposes of clarifying the record, it is understood that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is not intended as a verbatim extraction of the exact language in all of the independent claims. By way of example, independent Claim 1 does not specifically recite that the comparison between the first and second change of the vehicle direction reveals that the difference between the two is greater than a

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predetermined value. That is, while Claims 3 and 9 recite that the determining means determines that the parking assist control is to be stopped when a difference between the first change of the vehicle direction and the second change of the vehicle direction is greater than a predetermined value, the method recited in Claim 1 does not specifically include this same recitation.

Applicants thus submit that the comments in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be understood to mean that the claims recite anything different than that which the claims themselves recite.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this matter or should the Examiner disagree in any way with the comments set forth herein, the Examiner is kindly asked to contact the undersigned so that such matter can be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 10, 2006

B.1.

Rv.

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